

Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-14 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 SAM-01 SAJ-01

EB-11 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CU-04 COME-00 SIL-01 LAB-06

NIC-01 DRC-01 /146 W

----- 124709

O R 010842Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9497

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADAO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

USCINCEUR

DIA

COMUSFORAZ

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PMH

SUBJ: SITREP NO 12: LATEST DECISIONS OF MILITARY GOVERNMENT

SUMMARY: OVER WEEKEND AND ON APRIL 29, JUNTA FORMALIZED

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MANY DECISIONS ANNOUNCED PREVIOUSLY, HELD WIDE-RANGING
CONSULTATIONS, AND ANNOUNCED MAJOR DECISIONS SET FORTH
BELOW. END SUMMARY.

1. MILITARY JUNTA HAS MAINTAINED INTENSE ACTIVITY AIMED AT SECURING POWER, ENSURING ORDER AND ESTABLISHING DEMOCRATIC WAY OF LIFE IN PORTUGAL. JUNTA HAS FORMALIZED, BY DECREES PUBLISHED IN GOVERNMENT GAZETTE, DECISIONS REPORTED IN PREVIOUS SITREPS. ADDITIONALLY, JUNTA HAS ANNOUNCED FOLLOWING STEPS:

A. GENERAL COSTAGOMES IS NEW CHIEF OF STAFF OF ARMED FORCES, JOB WHICH HE HELD FROM MID-1972 UNTIL MARCH 1974.

(THIS INCREASES

(#) THAT SPINOLA WILL BE PROVISIONAL PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC).

B. ALL GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES, WHICH ARE NOW OPERATING WITHOUT MINISTERS, WILL BE ASSIGNED SPECIAL OFFICERS FOR LIAISON WITH GOVERNING JUNTA; SUCH OFFICERS ARE CHARGED WITH "ASSURING REGULAR FUNCTIONING OF SERVICES AND CALLING ATTENTION OF THE JUNTA TO ANY SUBJECT REQUIRING IMMEDIATE RESOLUTION".

C. MAY 1 IS NATIONAL HOLIDAY. (COMMENT: THIS MEETS LAST SPECIFIC DEMAND OF SOCIALIST AND COMMUNIST GROUPS).

D. CENSORSHIP OF FILMS IS ABOLISHED; FILMS WILL CONTINUE TO BE CLASSIFIED FOR SUITABILITY FOR DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS.

E. FINANCIAL DEALINGS WILL BE STRICTLY CONTROLLED. BANKS OPEN AT PRESENT FOR THREE HOURS IN AFTERNOONS FOR PAYROLL TRANSACTIONS AND SMALL INDIVIDUAL TRANSACTIONS ONLY. MAXIMUM OF \$2000 MAY BE TRANSFERRED OR TAKEN (#)

SECURITY POLICE (DGS) AND PORTUGUESE LEGION OFFICIALS AND AGENTS STILL AT LARGE MUST TURN THEMSELVES IN TO MILITARY AUTHORITIES AT ONCE. THOSE SUSPECTED OF CRIMES WILL BE TRIED IN ORDINARY TRIBUNALS ON BASIS OF STANDARD CRIMINAL INDICTMENTS.

G. REPRESENTATIVES OF JUNTA WILL OVERSEE RADIO AND TV BROADCASTS TO ENSURE "COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT". (EMPLOYEES OF RADIO AND TV LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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HAD PROTESTED CONTINUED PRESENCE OF "FASCIST" INDIVIDUALS IN BROADCAST MEDIA AND ALLEGED THEY INFLUENCED PROGRAMS).

H. SECRETARIAT FOR YOUTH IS ABOLISHED (JOINING OTHER YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS OF OLD REGIME IN ASHCAN).

I. ALL UNIVERSITY RECTORS AND VICE-RECTORS AS WELL AS DIRECTORS AND SUB-DIRECTORS OF ALL FACULTIES IN METROPOLE AND OVERSEAS UNIVERSITIES ARE DISMISSED, TO BE REPLACED AS PROVIDED BY EXISTING LAW (WHICH MEANS SENIOR PROFESSORS WILL TAKE OVER MOST SCHOOLS). THE UNIVERSITIES AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS RECENTLY SET UP IN METROPOLE APPARENTLY EXEMPT FROM THIS DECREE.

2. OTHER RELATED DEVELOPMENTS:

A. BOTH PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY AND PORTUGUESE SOCIALIST PARTY HAVE ISSUED COMMUNIQUE (SEPTELS).

B. JUNTA HAS HELD MEETINGS WITH ADDITIONAL PROMINENT FIGURES (SEE LISBON 1634), MOST IMPORTANT OF WHICH IS FRANCISCO SA CARNEIRO. AFTER DISCUSSION, SA CARNEIRO GAVE TV INTERVIEW, CARRIED PRIME TIME APRIL 29, IN WHICH HE STRESSED NEED FOR ORDERLY TRANSITION AND DANGER OF EXTREMISTS ON THE LEFT. JUNTA ALSO MET WITH CAPTAINS OF INDUSTRY AND BANKING, INCLUDING ANTONIO CHAMPALIMAUD, JORGE DE BRITO, PEDRO DE FIGUEIREDO SOBRAL MEIRELES, AND MIGUEL QUINA. ON DEPARTING SESSION WITH JUNTA, CHAMPALIMAUD CALLED FOR WIDE FREEDOM FOR WORKERS IN INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE TO DEMONSTRATE POTENTIAL OF PRIVATE INITIATIVE. DE BRITO CALLED FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF CLIMATE OF CONFIDENCE. NOTABLE IN THEIR ABSENCE WERE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CUF COMPLEX TO THE ESPIRITO SANTO BANKING FAMILY.

B. AT LEAST TWO SECURITY POLICE AGENTS HAVE COMMITTED SUICIDE.

D. ONE PAPER REPORTS BISHOP OF NAMPULA (MOZAMBIQUE), MANUEL VIERA PINTO, RECENTLY EXPELLED FROM HIS DIOCESE, WILL RETURN SOON.

E. SOCIALIST LEADER MARIO SOARES HAS ANNOUNCED HE IS HEADING COMMITTEE WHICH IS COORDINATING MASSIVE MAY DAY DEMONSTRATION. EXTREMIST REVOLUTIONARY GROUP MRPP IS EXPECTED TO TRY TO FOMENT DISORDER AT THIS OR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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RIVAL DEMONSTRATION, DESPITE WARNINGS FROM JUNTA, SOCIALISTS, AND COMMUNISTS AGAINST SUCH ACTIONS.

F. PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY SECRETARY GENERAL, ALVARO CUNHA, ARRIVED LISBON AFTERNOON APRIL 30 TO ENTHUSIASTIC WELCOME BY CROWD WHICH EMBOFFS

ESTIMATED AT 3000. HE PROCEEDED FROM AIRPORT TO JUNTA HEADQUARTERS IN CAR FLYING HUGE SOVIET FLAG, ESCORTED BY MOTORCYCLE POLICE AND ARMY JEEPS AND ARMORED CARS.

G. PATRIOTIC FRONT FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION

(FPLN), (WHICH HAD NOT BEEN HEARD FROM SINCE LAST DECEMBER) HAS ISSUED STATEMENT FROM ALGIERS EXTENDING ENTHUSIASTIC VOTE OF SUPPORT TO JUNTA AND INDICATING ITS INTENTION TO ABANDON CLANDESTINE ACTIVITIES. FPLN STATEMENT CONDEMNED IN ADVANCE VIOLENT ACTIONS AIMED AT DERAILING PROGRAM OF JUNTA.
SCOTT

NOTE BY OC/T: (#) OMISSIONS. CORRECTIONS TO FOLLOW.

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